
U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

Gordon P. Eaton, Director

Reston, VA 20192

For information, contact:

Joyce Ober, Commodity Specialist

Telephone: (703) 648-7717, Fax: (703) 648-7722

E-mail: jober@usgs.gov

MINES-DATA: (703) 648-7799

MINES FaxBack: (703) 648-4999

Internet: <http://minerals.er.usgs.gov/minerals>

SULFUR IN AUGUST 1996

During the month, production of combined Frasch and recovered elemental sulfur was 900,000 metric tons, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. August production was 5 % higher than that of July 1996, and 5 % higher than that of August 1995. Shipments of these combined products were 10 % higher than those of July 1996.

Import and export data for August 1996 were not available at

the time of publication. Import/export data and apparent consumption for August 1996 will be published in the September 1996 Sulfur Mineral Industry Surveys. Imports of recovered sulfur for July 1996 were 148,000 tons. Exports of sulfur, for the same period, were 62,000 tons. Imports of sulfuric acid for July 1996 were 132,000 tons; exports were 9,000 tons.

TABLE 1
SALIENT SULFUR STATISTICS 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production				Shipments, all sources
	Frasch 2/	Petroleum 3/	Natural gas	Total	
1995	759	5,020	4,580	10,400	10,700
Jan.-July 1995	759	3,320	2,780	6,870	7,220
1995:					
August	W	411	448 4/	859	912
September	W	425	464 4/	889	851
October	W	431	420 4/	851	842
November	W	434	459 4/	893	905
December	W	443	460 4/	903	917
1996:					
January	W	433	449 4/	882	884
February	W	406	419 4/	825	815
March	W	430	424 4/	854	835
April	W	449	423 4/	872	898
May	W	467	422 4/	889	863
June	W	416	397 4/	813	763
July	W	433	427 4/	860	832
August	W	468	432 p/ 4/	900 p/	917 p/
Year to date	W	3,500 p/	3,390 p/	6,900 p/	6,810 p/

p/ Preliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Natural gas."

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Estimates based on information available from the Texas Comptroller of Public Account and company quarterly reports.

3/ Includes a small quantity from coking operations.

4/ Includes data from Frasch producers.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF SULFUR 1/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Canada		Mexico		Total, all countries 2/	
	Quantity	Value 3/	Quantity	Value 3/	Quantity	Value 3/
1995	1,670	65,000	502	28,900	2,200	99,700
Jan.-July 1995	975	37,200	301	18,500	1,280	58,900
1995:						
July	148	6,400	61	3,660	210	10,500
August	136	6,520	41	2,130	177	8,890
September	136	5,470	41	2,430	177	7,970
October	158	5,910	41	2,120	199	9,020
November	151	5,250	38	1,970	189	7,510
December	116	4,020	40	1,800	174	6,870
1996:						
January	96	4,780	18	781	135	7,070
February	96	4,140	37	1,910	150	7,080
March	93	2,480	37	1,720	130	4,680
April	82	2,220	37	1,990	119	4,660
May	119	2,400	37	1,280	171	5,520
June	85	1,500	36	1,760	122	3,780
July	111	4,610	36	1,680	148	6,700
Year to date	682	22,100	238	11,100	975	39,500

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ May include other countries not listed.

3/ Declared customs valuation.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS OF SULFURIC ACID 1/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Canada			Europe			Total 2/		
	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value 3/	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value 3/	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value 3/
1995	1,660	544	61,500	95	30	710	1,900	619	66,500
Jan.-July 1995 4/	1,000	328	37,500	61	19	380	1,140	373	39,400
1995:									
July	121	40	4,300	--	--	--	125	41	4,750
August	121	40	4,630	14	5	101	148	48	5,120
September	147	48	5,350	10	3	111	162	53	6,250
October	147	48	5,290	(5/)	(5/)	2	185	60	5,790
November	136	45	4,900	10	3	116	147	48	5,060
December	133	44	4,260	--	--	--	139	45	5,280
1996:									
January	112	37	3,420	9	3	113	144	47	4,120
February	110	36	2,700	11	4	232	188	62	3,550
March	114	47	3,900	35	12	466	199	65	4,510
April	126	41	3,620	40	13	421	202	66	4,350
May	147	48	3,990	20	7	223	192	63	4,510
June	113	37	2,670	21	7	160	140	46	3,460
July	106	35	2,770	21	7	86	132	43	3,210
Year to date	828	281	23,100	157	53	1,700	1,200	392	27,700

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ May include other countries not listed.

3/ Declared customs valuation.

4/ May include revisions of prior months.

5/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF SULFUR AND SULFURIC ACID 1/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Sulfur		Sulfuric Acid		
	Quantity	Value 2/	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value 2/
1995	905	66,200	171	56	12,800
Jan.-July 1995	620	47,300	105	34	7,450
1995:					
July	13	2,330	18	6	1,170
August	61	5,440	7	2	886
September	10	1,580	16	5	1,110
October	104	7,060	17	6	1,530
November	51	3,690	11	4	1,050
December	99	5,340	6	2	774
1996:					
January	51	3,000 e/	13	4	1,370
February	44	3,000 e/	6	2	805
March	7	1,210	10	3	900
April	120	2,590	7	2	938
May	16	2,350	9	3	1,080
June	124	4,990	8	3	785
July	62	3,170	9	3	978
Year to date	424	20,310	62	20	6,860

e/ Estimated.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Declared f.a.s. (free alongside ship) valuation.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 5
U.S. CONSUMPTION OF SULFUR 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Domestic sources 2/	Imports	Consumption
1995	9,830	2,200	12,000
Jan.-July 1995	5,740	1,280	7,020
1995:			
July	897	210	1,110
August	851	177	1,030
September	841	177	1,020
October	738	199	937
November	854	189	1,040
December	818	174	992
1996:			
January	833	135	968
February	771	150	921
March	828	130	958
April	778	119	897
May	847	171	1,020
June	639	122	761
July	770	148	918
Year to date	5,470	975	6,440

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Calculated as shipments minus exports.

TABLE 6
RECOVERED SULFUR PRODUCED AND SHIPPED IN THE UNITED STATES,
BY PAD (PETROLEUM ADMINISTRATION FOR DEFENSE) DISTRICT 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

District and source	August 1996 p/		July 1996 p/		Year to date 1996 p/		Year to date 1995 2/	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
PAD 1:								
Petroleum and coke	19	20	17	18	141	150	167	165
Natural gas	5	4	5	5	34	34	34	34
Total	23	24	21	23	175	184	200	199
PAD 2:								
Petroleum and coke	82	83	78	77	599	600	596	595
Natural gas	4	4	4	4	34	33	42	42
Total	86	87	82	81	633	633	638	637
PAD 3: 3/								
Petroleum and coke	278	295	252	246	2,070	2,070	1,860	W
Natural gas 4/	335	343	326	308	2,650	2,580	2,660	W
Total	614	638 5/	578	554 5/	4,710	4,640 5/	4,520	4,520 5/
PAD 4 and 5: 6/								
Petroleum and coke	89	91	87	89	696	695	671	676
Natural gas	88	77	91	85	680	655	678	669
California	69	70	69	69	544	544	523	529
Total	177	168	179	174	1,380	1,350	1,350	1,350
Grand total	900	917	860	832	6,900	6,810	6,710	6,700

p/ Preliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ May include revisions for prior months.

3/ Includes Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

4/ Frasch production is included in the natural gas production to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

5/ Includes data from Frasch producers.

6/ Quantities produced and shipped in California included in petroleum and natural gas. California total shown for information purposes only.

TABLE 7
COMPARATIVE SULFUR AND SULFURIC ACID STATISTICS 1/

(Million metric tons per year [annualized basis] and dollars per metric ton for period shown)

	1996			1995
	August	July	Year to date	Total
Production	10.60 p/	10.20	10.30 p/	10.40
Shipments	10.80 p/	9.82	10.20 p/	10.70
Exports of sulfur	NA	0.73	0.73	0.91
Imports of sulfur:				
Canada	NA	1.31	1.17	1.67
Mexico	NA	0.43	0.41	0.50
Total	NA	1.75	1.68	2.20
Exports of H ₂ SO ₄	NA	0.11	0.11	0.17
Imports of H ₂ SO ₄ :				
Canada	NA	1.25	1.42	1.66
Europe	NA	0.25	0.27	0.17
Total 2/	NA	1.56	2.06	1.90
Consumption: 3/				
Domestic sources	NA	9.09	9.40	9.83
Imports	NA	1.75	1.68	2.20
Total	NA	10.80	11.10	12.00
Sulfur export values 4/	NA	\$51 e/	\$48	\$73
Sulfur import values: 4/				
Canada	NA	\$42	\$32	\$39
Mexico	NA	\$47	\$47	\$58
Average	NA	\$45	\$40	\$43
H ₂ SO ₄ export values 4/	NA	\$109	\$111	\$75
H ₂ SO ₄ import values: 4/				
Canada	NA	\$26	\$28	\$37
Europe	NA	\$4	\$11	\$7
Average	NA	\$24	\$23	\$35

e/ Estimated. p/ Preliminary. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes other countries not listed.

3/ Because trade data was not available, August consumption was not determined.

4/ Average value per ton for most recent data available.